

28 APR 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: S. 1638, To provide for an effective system
of personnel administration for the executive
branch of the Government ("Career Service
Act of 1959")

1. This bill would transfer from the U. S. Civil Service Commission to a newly established Office of Personnel Management in the Executive Office of the President current functions of the Commission comprising positive leadership responsibilities in personnel administration. "Watchdog" functions would remain with the Commission.

2. The Central Intelligence Agency, along with such other agencies as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Atomic Energy Commission, and the Foreign Service, are excluded from the Career Service which is provided for in the bill. This Career Service is essentially the same as the classified or competitive service under present civil service laws, rules, and regulations.

3. As we interpret the authorities and responsibilities vested by this bill in the proposed Office of Personnel Management and in the Civil Service Commission, we believe its main effect on Agency personnel activities would be to set up a different organization with which to deal on certain matters and that it would not impinge upon any of our present authorities or activities in the personnel management field. We have in the past received a cooperative and interested response in matters requiring advice or assistance from the Commission and from the President's Adviser on Personnel Management and see no reason to doubt that such a climate would prevail in relation to the proposed Office of Personnel Management.

4. While we have no suggestions for Agency action concerning this proposal, we would like to be kept informed of significant developments in its consideration.

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Deputy Executive Officer
Office of Personnel